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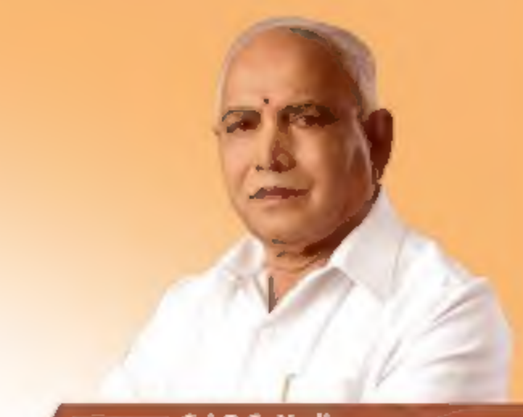
JAPAN PM SHINZO ABE TO QUIT DUE TO ILL HEALTH

TOKYO: Shinzo Abe, Japan's longest-serving Prime Minister, on Friday said that he intends to step down, owing to health problems. Abe has had ulcerative colitis since he was a teenager, which was controlled with treatment. But it has resurfaced, requiring newer treatment through IV injections, he said. "It is 'gut-wrenching' to have to leave my job before accomplishing my goals," Abe added. P14

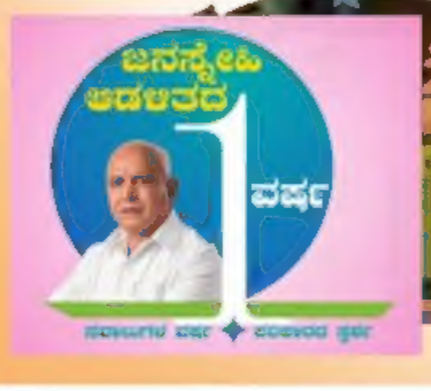
Sri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Department of Tourism, Department of Kannada and Culture
Department of Youth Empowerment and sports



Sri B.S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister



Department of Tourism

Sri C.T. Ravi Hon'ble Minister along with Hon'ble Chief Minister distributing 'Tourist Taxi Key' to beneficiaries.

- Karnataka Tourism Task force constituted with Smt Sudha Murty as its Chairperson.
- 120 Tourism Infrastructure projects completed at a cost of **Rs. 274 Crore**.
- 918 works are in progress.
- Six double decker busses on the London Big Bus model procured at a cost of **Rs. 5 Crore** and will be operating at Hampi and Mysuru.
- Tourism plaza being developed at Pattadakallu at a cost of **Rs. 29.25 Crore.**
- Four 3-star hotels being constructed one each at the destinations of Hampi, Belur, Vijayapura and Badami, at an estimated cost of **Rs. 79.98 Crore.**
- Financial assistance of **Rs. 9.34 Crore** to 524 unemployed youths belonging to SC/ST/OBC category provided for purchase of Tourist Taxis.
- Karnataka Darshan programme for 25,493 students arranged at a cost of **Rs. 8.92 Crore.**
- KSTDC has earned a profit of 37% during 2019-20, which is highest in the last 50 years.
- Prestigious Golden Chariot train services with new attractions will resume shortly.
- Sound and Light Laser shows at Hampi and Srirangapatna.
- New Karnataka Tourism Policy being launched shortly.
- Dept received best Tourism stall awards at OTM- Mumbai, TTF & IITM-Bengaluru, IITM-Chennai and also best stall award at International event at FITUR.
- Assisted 6780 Foreign Tourists belonging to 37 different countries, stranded in State during Covid lockdown to safely return to their countries
- Jungle Lodges and Resorts has increased its profit by 15% during the year 2019-20.

Programmes during current year

- Development of Tourist Infrastrcture facilities at Saudatti Yellamma Temple at a cost of **Rs. 22.50 Crore.**
- Interpretation centre at Gaganmahal, Vijayapura at a cost of **Rs. 5 Crore.**
- Surfing school at Sasihitlu at a cost of **Rs. 10 Crore.**
- Comprehensive development of Chitradurga Fort at a cost of **Rs. 8.15 Crore**.

Discussions on the proposals of the Department with Sri Prahlad Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism and Culture.

- Implementation of SAMRAKSHANA SCHEME for conservation and restoration of about 25000 historically significant temples, ancient places and memorials.
- Comprehensive development of Anjanadri Hill in Koppal at a cost of **Rs. 20 Crore**.
- Comprehensive development of the historical Tourist Place, Badami at a cost of **Rs. 25 Crore**.
- Global Investors meet being organised.
- Development of Srirangapatna Fort at a cost of **Rs. 10 Crore**.
- Development of Jog Falls area as a world class Tourist destination.

Department of Kannada and Culture

- Enhancement of Masashana (Monthly Financial assistance) to Writers/Artists, who have crossed 60 years of age from **Rs.1,500/- to Rs. 2,000/- per month**. 16,924 Writers/Artists are being benefitted.
- Rajyotsava Award / State and National Awards presented to achievers in various fields.
- **Rs. 2.00 Crore** released for the construction of Hasya Ratna Late Narasimharaju Smaraka Bhavana.
- **Rs. 4.45 Crore** released to Kengal Hanumanthaiah Hostel trust in Bengaluru.

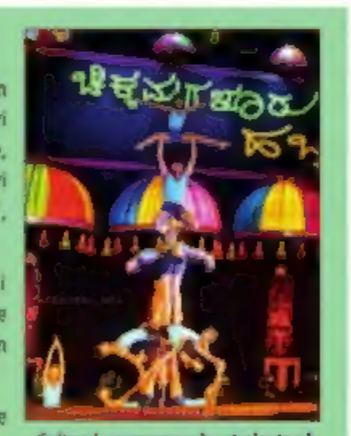
Sri C.T. Ravi, Hon'ble Minister inspecting a tourism site

- **Rs. 2.00 Crore** released to Karnataka Kunchitiga Vokkaligara Sangha building in Bengaluru.
- **Rs. 2.00 Crore** released for the construction of cultural centre at Shree Balagangadharanatha Swamiji Blind Children's School campus in Ramanagara District.
- **Rs. 1.00 Crore** released to build Scouts and Guides Kannada Bhavana at Mudabidare in Dakshina Kannada District.
- **Rs. 50.00 Lakh** released to construct Basava Sharana Kalasangrahalaya in Bagalakote District.
- **Rs. 1.50 Crore** released to construct Cultural Bhavana at Shree Marale Gavi Matha campus in Ramanagara District.
- **A Grant of Rs. 9.51 Crore to** two Authorities and 13 Academies.
- **Rs. 1.05 Crore** Released for **Janapada Jathre'**, conducted in Hubballi, Bengaluru, Chitradurga, Chikkamagaluru, Haveri, Shivamogga districts during last year.
- **Rs. 198.50 Lakh** released to 26 professional theatre groups.
- **Rs. 9.50 Crore** released for development works of Mallaththahalli Kalagrama.
- **Rs. 16.80 Crores** spent for Mysuru Dasara, **Rs. 3.00 Crore** for Dasara celebrations in other Districts. **Rs. 50.00 lakh** spent for Kadambotsava and **Rs.150.00 lakh** for Kittur Chennamma Festival.
- **Rs. 10.00 Crore** spent for World famous Hampi Utsava.
- **A Grant of Rs. 5.00 Crore** each to Suvarna Cultural Complex in Madikeri and Mangaluru Zilla Rangamandira.
- **A Grant of Rs. 3.00 Crore, Rs. 3.60 Crore and Rs. 3.00 Crore** respectively for construction of Byari Bhavan, Tulu Bhavan and Konkani Bhavan.
- **A Grant of Rs. 750.00 lakh** for construction of School, Cultural Centre, Library, Stadium and installation of High Mast Lights in Border Area.
- **Rs. 75.00 lakh** for work of Rangamandira in Vijayapura. **Rs. 100.00 lakh** for work of Kannada Bhavan in Bidar. **Rs. 200.00 lakh** for purchase of site for construction of Gandhi Bhavan in Yadgiri. **Rs. 327.00 lakh** for work of Sahitya Bhavan at Belagavi and **Rs. 125.00 lakh** for construction of Cultural Hall at Karwar.
- 1,865 talented students have received Kannada Madhyama awards. An Annual incentive of **Rs. 25,000/-** given to 126 students studying Kannada M.A. in 8 Universities in other States. Total 102 persons including 72 Judges, 10 Government Prosecutors, 20 Advocates were honoured with awards for rendering judgments in Kannada Language.

Sri C.T. Ravi, Hon'ble Minister participating in the traditional Gorava Dance.

Projects for the Current year

- Construction of heritage cultural centres in the birth place of His Holiness Sri Sri Sri Shivakumara Swamiji, Veerapura village, and in the birth place of His Holiness Sri Sri Sri Balagangadharanatha Swamiji, Banandur village.
- Development of Shree Jagajyothi Basaveshwara's 325 feet huge bronze statue at Shree Murugha Matha campus in Chitradurga District at Rs. **20.00 Crore**.
- Constructing well designed theatres like Ravindra Kalakshetra in all the four directions of Bengalur at **Rs. 60.00 Crores**.



Cultural programme by students of Alwar Educational Institute at Chikkamagaluru Festival.

- Development of Saint Shishunala Shariff's graveyard and Shishunala village at Haveri at Rs. **5.00 Crores**.
- Converting ex-chief minister Late S. Nijalingappa's house as monument at **Rs. 5.00 Crores**.
- Developing well known writer S.L. Byrappa's native place Santheswara Village at **Rs. 5.00 Crores.**

Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports

- Cash award of **Rs. 165.00 lakh** distributed to sportspersons who have won medals at state, national & International levels. Scheduled Caste-311, Scheduled Tribe-107.
- Karnataka Kusti Habba conducted at Dharwad from 22nd to 25th Feb. 2020 at a cost of **Rs. 200.00 lakh**.
- All Women Team' successfully completed a kayaking expedition of 135 Kms. in Bhadra River as part of International Women's Day.
- Sports kits provided to 1040 youth clubs in 30 Districts at a cost of **Rs. 273.74 lakh.**
- Namma Mane, Nanna Surakshe' (Our Home, My Safety), an innovative online public awareness programme to combat COVID -19 organised with eminent sports & cine stars.
- NSS Officers and two lakh NSS Volunteers trained on COVID -19 awareness and stress management.
- Emergency financial assistance provided for treatment of COVID infected eminent sportsperson Sri (Late) Ramesh Tikaram, Arjuna Awardee.
- Commencement of Aqua Adventure Sports Training Programmes in Ayyanakere, Chikkamagaluru.
- Revival and rejuvenation of Government Flying Training School (GFTS), Jakkur.

Hon'ble Minister encouraging Sports Persons.

Important Programmes being Implemented during the current Financial Year

- Installation of new State-of-the-Art Synthetic Athletic Track in Sree Kanteerava Stadium, Bengaluru at a cost of **Rs.4.50 Crore**.
- Registration of SC & ST Youth Clubs in all Taluks and providing financial assistance of **Rs. 5,000/-** and sports kits worth **Rs. 25,000/-**
- Completion of 17 incomplete sports infrastructure projects at a cost of **Rs. 8.57 Crore**.
- Research Centre to be established under the aegis of Late Sri Ananthkumar Foundation at a cost of **Rs. 10.00 Crore** to develop leadership qualities and inculcate values among youth.
- For the first time in the State, Special Sports Coaching Camps will be organized for youth belonging to Scheduled Tribes like Koraga, Kadukuruba, Siddi, Jenukuruba, Soliga and others.
- Distribution of pending 'Ekalavya', 'Life Time Achievement' and 'Karnataka Kreeda Ratna' Awards for the years 2017,2018 along with that for the year 2019.

As is enshrined in our Constitution to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life, and to have compassion for living creatures is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country